

EXHIBIT C

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13 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
14 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

15 Sean Bennett, an individual,) Case No. 2:23-cv-02425-ROS--DMF
16 Plaintiff,)
17 vs.)
18 City of Phoenix, a governmental entity;)
19 American Airlines, Inc., a foreign)
20 corporation; Officer Joel Cottrell and Jane)
21 Doe Cottrell, a married couple; Officer)
22 Benjamin Denham and Jane Doe Denham, a)
23 married couple; Officer Todd Blanc and Jane)
24 Doe Blanc, a married couple; Officer Peru)
25 and Jane Doe Peru, a married couple;)
Sergeant Hogan and Jane Doe Hogan, a)
married couple;
Defendant(s).)

) **DECLARATION OF ERYN
SCANNELL IN SUPPORT OF
DEFENDANT AMERICAN
AIRLINES' MOTION FOR
SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

) Honorable Judge: Roslyn O. Silver
Magistrate Judge: Deborah M. Fine

I, Eryn Scannell, declare as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen (18) and make this declaration in support of
American Airlines' Motion for Summary Judgment. I have personal knowledge of the facts
set forth herein and, if called upon, I can and will testify competently as follows:

1 2. On August 13, 2021, I was a passenger on American Airlines Flight 2391
2 from Phoenix, Arizona, to Anchorage, Alaska.

3 3. After boarding the aircraft and taking my assigned seat, I observed a male
4 passenger board the aircraft while chewing tobacco and spitting into a cup. He repeatedly
5 pulled down his mask while doing so. A flight attendant instructed him to discard the cup
6 and to keep his mask on. At that time, airline policy required passengers to wear masks
7 during flights. The man appeared frustrated by this instruction and spoke loudly about it
8 when he sat down.

9 4. The man appeared to be under the influence of something—likely alcohol,
10 based on his behavior. Initially, he was seated in the aisle seat directly in front of me
11 (diagonally across the aisle). A flight attendant asked him to move to the seat on the
12 opposite side of the aisle, stating it was for training purposes. The man complied but
13 needed repeated reminders to wear his mask and fasten his seat belt.

14 5. When flight attendants told him to fasten his seat belt, he refused. Another
15 flight attendant told him, “You have to put it on, or we cannot leave.” He was disrespectful
16 toward the flight attendants. Shortly after the flight attendant walked away, the man moved
17 back to his original seat.

18 6. When the flight attendant returned, she again asked him to move. The man
19 stood up, turned toward the rear of the plane (in my direction), and began shouting.

20 7. The man identified himself as Sean Bennett—he shouted his name multiple
21 times so everyone could hear. He stated that he was in the military, that he had fought for
22 our country, and that he had received a Silver Star. It was as if he were shouting his résumé
23 to the passengers. Everyone around me appeared confused as to why he was yelling, and
24 the situation was escalating quickly. The people near me, including myself, were nervous
25 about what might happen next.

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1 8. I began recording a video on my cell phone of Mr. Bennett shouting while he
2 was being escorted off the aircraft. I recorded discreetly from behind my seat because I
3 feared he might see me filming, which I thought could further escalate his behavior. A true
4 and correct copy of this video, recorded on August 13, 2021, is attached hereto as **Exhibit**
5 **A.**

6 9. Mr. Bennett appeared angry, defiant, and volatile. I have never before
7 witnessed a passenger behaving this way on a flight. From my observations, the flight
8 attendants did nothing to provoke his reaction. Their requests for him to wear a mask and
9 fasten his seatbelt were standard requirements on all flights during the COVID period. The
10 situation escalated rapidly, and passengers, including myself, were visibly anxious.

11 10. The flight attendants appeared to call for assistance, and Mr. Bennett was
12 soon escorted off the aircraft. Another man—apparently an active or retired member of the
13 military—assisted in removing him. Without that assistance, I do not believe Mr. Bennett
14 would have left the plane.

15 11. I would not have felt safe if Mr. Bennett had remained on board. In my
16 opinion, the flight attendants handled the situation appropriately and professionally. I
17 travel frequently and have done so since childhood. Based on my observations, the crew's
18 response to Mr. Bennett's behavior was reasonable and well-managed.

19 I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the United States, that the
20 foregoing is true and correct. Executed on November 11/24/2025, 2025, at Tempe (City),
21 Arizona (State).

22 DocuSigned by:

23 Eryn Scannell
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